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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 20

[Docket No. FWS-HQ-MB-2014-0064; FF09M21200-156-FXMB1231099BPP0]

RIN 1018-BA67

Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian

Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2015-16 Early Season

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule prescribes special early-season migratory bird hunting regulations for

certain Tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands. This

rule responds to Tribal requests for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (hereinafter Service or we)

recognition of Tribal authority to regulate hunting under established guidelines. This rule allows

the establishment of season bag limits and, thus, harvest, at levels compatible with populations

and habitat conditions.

DATES: This rule takes effect on September 1, 2015.

ADDRESSES: You may inspect comments received on the special hunting regulations and Tribal proposals during normal business hours U.S. Fish and Wildlife Headquarters, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803, or at http://www.regulations.gov at Docket No. FWS-HQ-MB-2014-0064.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ron W. Kokel, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, MS: MB, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803; (703) 358-1967.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of July 3, 1918 (40 Stat. 755; 16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.), authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, having due regard for the zones of temperature and for the distribution, abundance, economic value, breeding habits, and times and lines of flight of migratory game birds, to determine when, to what extent, and by what means such birds or any part, nest, or egg thereof may be taken, hunted, captured, killed, possessed, sold, purchased, shipped, carried, exported, or transported.

In the August 4, 2015, **Federal Register** (80 FR 46218), we proposed special migratory bird hunting regulations for the 2015–16 hunting season for certain Indian Tribes, under the

guidelines described in the June 4, 1985, **Federal Register** (50 FR 23467). The guidelines respond to Tribal requests for Service recognition of their reserved hunting rights, and for some Tribes, recognition of their authority to regulate hunting by both tribal members and nonmembers on their reservations. The guidelines include possibilities for:

- (1) On-reservation hunting by both tribal members and nonmembers, with hunting by nontribal members on some reservations to take place within Federal frameworks but on dates different from those selected by the surrounding State(s);
- (2) On-reservation hunting by tribal members only, outside of usual Federal frameworks for season dates and length, and for daily bag and possession limits; and
- (3) Off-reservation hunting by tribal members on ceded lands, outside of usual framework dates and season length, with some added flexibility in daily bag and possession limits.

In all cases, the regulations established under the guidelines must be consistent with the March 10–September 1 closed season mandated by the 1916 Migratory Bird Treaty with Canada. We have successfully used the guidelines since the 1985–86 hunting season. We finalized the guidelines beginning with the 1988–89 hunting season (August 18, 1988, **Federal Register** [53 FR 31612]). In the April 13, 2015, **Federal Register** (80 FR 19852), we requested that Tribes desiring special hunting regulations in the 2015–16 hunting season submit a proposal for our review.

No action is required if a Tribe wishes to observe the hunting regulations established by the State(s) in which an Indian reservation is located. On August 4, 2015, we published a proposed rule (80 FR 46218) that included special migratory bird hunting regulations for 31 Indian Tribes,

based on the input we received in response to the April 13, 2015, proposed rule and previous rules. All the regulations contained in this final rule were either submitted by the Tribes or approved by the Tribes and follow our proposals in the August 4 proposed rule.

Although the August 4 proposed rule included generalized regulations for both early- and late-season hunting, this rulemaking addresses only the early-season proposals. Therefore, it includes information for only 23 Tribes. The letter designations for the paragraphs pertaining to each Tribe in this rule are discontinuous because they follow the letter designations for the 31 Tribes discussed in the August 4 proposed rule, which set forth paragraphs (a) through (ee). Late-season hunting will be addressed in late September. As a general rule, early seasons begin during September each year and have a primary emphasis on such species as mourning and white-winged doves. Late seasons begin about October 1 or later each year and have a primary emphasis on waterfowl.

Population Status and Harvest

Information on the status of waterfowl and information on the status and harvest of migratory shore and upland game birds, including detailed information on methodologies and results, is available at the address indicated under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** or from our website at http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/NewsPublicationsReports.html.

Comments and Issues Concerning Tribal Proposals

For the 2015–16 migratory bird hunting season, we proposed regulations for 31 Tribes and/or Indian groups that followed the 1985 guidelines. Some of the tribal proposals had both early-

and late-season elements. However, as noted earlier, only those with early-season proposals are included in this final rulemaking; 23 Tribes have proposals with early seasons. The comment period for the proposed rule, published on August 4, 2015, closed on August 14, 2015. Because of the necessary brief comment period, we will respond to any comments on the proposed rule and/or these regulations postmarked by August 21, but not received prior to final action by us, in the September late-season final rule. At this time, we have received four comments.

Written Comments: A commenter protested the entire migratory bird hunting regulations process, the killing of all migratory birds, and status and habitat data on which the migratory bird hunting regulations are based. Several commenters supported the tribal regulations process.

Service Response: Our long-term objectives continue to include providing opportunities to harvest portions of certain migratory game bird populations and to limit harvests to levels compatible with each population's ability to maintain healthy, viable numbers. Having taken into account the zones of temperature and the distribution, abundance, economic value, breeding habits, and times and lines of flight of migratory birds, we believe that the hunting seasons provided for herein are compatible with the current status of migratory bird populations and long-term population goals. Additionally, we are obligated to, and do, give serious consideration to all information received as public comment. We believe that the Flyway-Council system of migratory bird management has been a longstanding, successful example of State–Federal cooperative management since its establishment in 1952. However, as always, we continue to seek new ways to improve the process.

Written Comments: We received one comment on Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission's (GLIFWC's) initial proposal from the Mississippi Flyway Council. The Mississippi Flyway Council recommended approving GLIFWC's mourning dove hunting season extension from the previous 70-day season to a 90-day season and denying their waterfowl hunting season request regarding the use of electronic calls.

Service Response: The GLIFWC 2015 proposal has two changes from regulations approved last season: in the 1837 and 1842 Treaty Areas, the GLIFWC proposal would extend the mourning dove season from 70 days to 90 days and would allow the use of electronic calls.

GLIFWC states that the regulatory changes are intended to provide tribal members a harvest opportunity within the scope of rights reserved in their various treaties and increase tribal subsistence harvest opportunities, while protecting migratory bird populations. Under the GLIFWC's proposed regulations, GLIFWC expects total ceded territory harvest to be approximately 1,650 ducks, 375 geese, 20 sandhill cranes, and 20 swans, which is roughly similar to anticipated levels in previous years for those species for which seasons were established. GLIFWC further anticipates that tribal harvest will remain low given the small number of tribal hunters and the limited opportunity to harvest more than a small number of birds on most hunting trips.

Recent GLIFWC harvest surveys (1996–98, 2001, 2004, 2007–08, 2011, and 2012) indicate that tribal off-reservation waterfowl harvest has averaged fewer than 1,100 ducks and 250 geese annually. In the latest survey year for which we have specific results (2012), an estimated 86

hunters took an estimated 1,090 trips and harvested 1,799 ducks (1.7 ducks per trip) and 822 geese. Analysis of hunter survey data over 1996–2012 indicates a general downward trend in both harvest and hunter participation. While we acknowledge that tribal harvest and participation has declined in recent years, we do not believe that allowing the use of electronic calls for migratory game bird hunting in GLIFWC's 2015-16 proposal for tribal waterfowl seasons on ceded lands in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota is in the best interest of the conservation of migratory birds. However, we are in favor of allowing a longer mourning dove season. More specific discussion follows below.

Allowing Electronic Calls

As we have stated the last 4 years (76 FR 54676, September 1, 2011; 77 FR 54451, September 5, 2012; 78 FR 53218, August 28, 2013; 79 FR 52226, September 3, 2014), the issue of allowing electronic calls and other electronic devices for migratory game bird hunting has been highly debated and highly controversial over the last 40 years, similar to other prohibited hunting methods such as baiting. Electronic calls, i.e., the use or aid of recorded or electronic amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds to lure or attract migratory game birds to hunters, was Federally prohibited in 1957, because of their effectiveness in attracting and aiding the harvest of ducks and geese and are generally not considered a legitimate component of hunting. In 1999, after much debate, the migratory bird regulations were revised to allow the use of electronic calls for the take of light geese (lesser snow geese and Ross geese) during a light-goose-only season when all other waterfowl and crane hunting seasons, excluding falconry, were closed (64 FR 7507, February 16, 1999; 64 FR 71236, December 20, 1999; 73 FR 65926, November 5, 2008). The regulations were also changed in

2006, to allow the use of electronic calls for the take of resident Canada geese during Canada-goose-only September seasons when all other waterfowl and crane seasons, excluding falconry, were closed (71 FR 45964, August 10, 2006). In both instances, these changes were made in order to significantly increase the take of these species due to serious population overabundance, depredation issues, or public health and safety issues, or a combination of these.

In our previous responses on this issue, we have also provided discussion on available information from the use of electronic calls during the special light-goose seasons and our belief to its applicability to most waterfowl species. Given available evidence on the effectiveness of electronic calls, we continue to be concerned about the large biological uncertainty surrounding any widespread use of electronic calls. Additionally, given the fact that tribal waterfowl hunting covered by GLIFWC's proposal would occur on ceded lands that are not in the ownership of the Tribes, we remain very concerned that the use of electronic calls to take waterfowl would lead to confusion on the part of the public, wildlife-management agencies, and law enforcement officials in implementing the requirements of 50 CFR part 20. Further, similar to the impacts of baiting, uncertainties concerning the zone of influence attributed to the use of electronic calls could potentially increase harvest from nontribal hunters operating within areas electronic calls are being used during the dates of the general hunt.

Notwithstanding our concerns, we understand GLIFWC's position on this issue, their desire to increase tribal hunter opportunity, harvest, and participation, and the importance that GLIFWC has ascribed to these issues. In our recent discussions with them this summer, they have expressed a willingness to work with us to further discuss these issues, all the uncertainties and

other such issues. However, we have only recently begun such discussions. As such, we are not yet at a point that would allow our approval of this proposal, or any such proposal. Further, we believe it would be premature at his time to approve such a measure, or any such measure, until we finalize the Federal-Tribal process, roles, and responsibilities for addressing this and other such issues. It is our hope that over the next year, we can continue these discussions. We remain hopeful that we can reach a mutually agreeable resolution.

Thus, at this time, removal of the electronic call prohibition, even with the GLIFWC's proposed limited and experimental design, would be inconsistent with our long-standing concerns, and we do not support allowing the use of electronic calls in the 1837 and 1842 Treaty Areas for any open season.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

The programmatic document, "Second Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement: Issuance of Annual Regulations Permitting the Sport Hunting of Migratory Birds (EIS 20130139)," filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on May 24, 2013, addresses NEPA compliance by the Service for issuance of the annual framework regulations for hunting of migratory game bird species. We published a notice of availability in the **Federal Register** on May 31, 2013 (78 FR 32686), and our Record of Decision on July 26, 2013 (78 FR 45376). We also address NEPA compliance for waterfowl hunting frameworks through the annual preparation of separate environmental assessments, the most recent being "Duck Hunting Regulations for 2015–16," with its corresponding August 2015 finding of no significant

impact. In addition, an August 1985 environmental assessment entitled "Guidelines for Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands" is available from the person indicated under the caption **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.**

Endangered Species Act Consideration

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), provides that, "The Secretary shall review other programs administered by him and utilize such programs in furtherance of the purposes of this Act" (and) shall "insure that any action authorized, funded, or carried out * * * is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of [critical] habitat. * * * *." Consequently, we conducted formal consultations to ensure that actions resulting from these regulations would not likely jeopardize the continued existence of endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of their critical habitat. Findings from these consultations are included in a biological opinion, which concluded that the regulations are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species. Additionally, these findings may have caused modification of some regulatory measures previously proposed, and the final rule reflects any such modifications. Our biological opinions resulting from this section 7 consultation are public documents available for public inspection at the address indicated under ADDRESSES.

Regulatory Planning and Review (Executive Orders 12866 and 13563)

Executive Order 12866 provides that the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA)

will review all significant rules. OIRA has reviewed this rule and has determined that this rule is significant because it would have an annual effect of \$100 million or more on the economy.

Executive Order 13563 reaffirms the principles of E.O. 12866 while calling for improvements in the nation's regulatory system to promote predictability, to reduce uncertainty, and to use the best, most innovative, and least burdensome tools for achieving regulatory ends. The executive order directs agencies to consider regulatory approaches that reduce burdens and maintain flexibility and freedom of choice for the public where these approaches are relevant, feasible, and consistent with regulatory objectives. E.O. 13563 emphasizes further that regulations must be based on the best available science and that the rulemaking process must allow for public participation and an open exchange of ideas. We have developed this rule in a manner consistent with these requirements.

An updated economic analysis was prepared for the 2013–14 season. This analysis was based on data from the newly released 2011 National Hunting and Fishing Survey, the most recent year for which data are available (see discussion in **Regulatory Flexibility Act** section below). This analysis estimated consumer surplus for three alternatives for duck hunting (estimates for other species are not quantified due to lack of data). The alternatives were: (1) issue restrictive regulations allowing fewer days than those issued during the 2012–13 season, (2) issue moderate regulations allowing more days than those in alternative 1, and (3) issue liberal regulations identical to the regulations in the 2012–13 season. For the 2013–14 season, we chose Alternative 3, with an estimated consumer surplus across all flyways of \$317.8–\$416.8 million. For the 2015–16 season, we have also chosen alternative 3. We also chose alternative 3 for the

2009–10, the 2010–11, the 2011–12, the 2012–13, and the 2014–15 seasons. The 2013–14 analysis is part of the record for this rule and is available at *http://www.regulations.gov* at Docket No. FWS–HQ–MB–2014–0064.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The annual migratory bird hunting regulations have a significant economic impact on substantial numbers of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.). We analyzed the economic impacts of the annual hunting regulations on small business entities in detail as part of the 1981 cost-benefit analysis. This analysis was revised annually from 1990–95. In 1995, the Service issued a Small Entity Flexibility Analysis (Analysis), which was subsequently updated in 1996, 1998, 2004, 2008, and 2013. The primary source of information about hunter expenditures for migratory game bird hunting is the National Hunting and Fishing Survey, which is conducted at 5-year intervals. The 2013 Analysis was based on the 2011 National Hunting and Fishing Survey and the U.S. Department of Commerce's County Business Patterns, from which it was estimated that migratory bird hunters would spend approximately \$1.5 billion at small businesses in 2013. Copies of the Analysis are available upon request from the Division of Migratory Bird Management (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) or from our website at

http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/NewReportsPublications/SpecialTopics/SpecialTopics.html# HuntingRegs or at http://www.regulations.gov at Docket No. FWS-HQ-MB-2014-0064.

Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act

This rule is a major rule under 5 U.S.C. 804(2), the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement

Fairness Act. For the reasons outlined above, this rule will have an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more. However, because this rule establishes hunting seasons, we are not deferring the effective date under the exemption contained in 5 U.S.C. 808(1).

Paperwork Reduction Act

This final rule does not contain any new information collection that requires approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. OMB has reviewed and approved the information collection requirements associated with migratory bird surveys and assigned the following OMB control numbers:

- 1018–0019—North American Woodcock Singing Ground Survey (expires 5/31/2018).
- 1018–0023—Migratory Bird Surveys (expires 6/30/2017). Includes Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program, Migratory Bird Hunter Surveys, Sandhill Crane Survey, and Parts Collection Survey.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

We have determined and certify, in compliance with the requirements of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act, 2 U.S.C. 1502 *et seq.*, that this rulemaking will not impose a cost of \$100 million or more in any given year on local or State government or private entities. Therefore, this rule is not a "significant regulatory action" under the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

Civil Justice Reform—Executive Order 12988

The Department, in promulgating this rule, has determined that this rule will not unduly burden the judicial system and that it meets the requirements of sections 3(a) and 3(b)(2) of Executive Order 12988.

Takings Implication Assessment

In accordance with Executive Order 12630, this rule, authorized by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703–711), does not have significant takings implications and does not affect any constitutionally protected property rights. This rule will not result in the physical occupancy of property, the physical invasion of property, or the regulatory taking of any property. In fact, this rule allows hunters to exercise otherwise unavailable privileges and, therefore, reduces restrictions on the use of private and public property.

Energy Effects—Executive Order 13211

Executive Order 13211 requires agencies to prepare Statements of Energy Effects when undertaking certain actions. While this rule is a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866, it is not expected to adversely affect energy supplies, distribution, or use. Therefore, this action is not a significant energy action and no Statement of Energy Effects is required.

Government-to-Government Relationship with Tribes

In accordance with the President's memorandum of April 29, 1994, "Government-to-Government Relations with Native American Tribal Governments" (59 FR 22951), Executive Order 13175, and

512 DM 2, we have evaluated possible effects on Federally recognized Indian tribes and have determined that there are no effects on Indian trust resources. However, in the April 13, 2015, **Federal Register**, we solicited proposals for special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain Tribes on Federal Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2015–16 migratory bird hunting season. The resulting proposals were contained in a separate August 4, 2015, proposed rule (80 FR 46218). By virtue of these actions, we have consulted with affected Tribes.

Federalism Effects

Due to the migratory nature of certain species of birds, the Federal Government has been given responsibility over these species by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. We annually prescribe frameworks from which the States make selections regarding the hunting of migratory birds, and we employ guidelines to establish special regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands. This process preserves the ability of the States and tribes to determine which seasons meet their individual needs. Any State or Indian tribe may be more restrictive than the Federal frameworks at any time. The frameworks are developed in a cooperative process with the States and the Flyway Councils. This process allows States to participate in the development of frameworks from which they will make selections, thereby having an influence on their own regulations. These rules do not have a substantial direct effect on fiscal capacity, change the roles or responsibilities of Federal or State governments, or intrude on State policy or administration. Therefore, in accordance with Executive Order 13132, these regulations do not have significant federalism effects and do not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a federalism summary impact statement.

Regulations Promulgation

The rulemaking process for migratory game bird hunting must, by its nature, operate under severe time constraints. However, we intend that the public be given the greatest possible opportunity to comment. Thus, when the preliminary proposed rulemaking was published, we established what we believed were the longest periods possible for public comment. In doing this, we recognized that when the comment period closed, time would be of the essence. That is, if there were a delay in the effective date of these regulations after this final rulemaking, Tribes would have insufficient time to publicize the necessary regulations and procedures to their hunters. We therefore find that "good cause" exists, within the terms of 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and this rule will, therefore, take effect immediately upon publication.

Accordingly, with each participating Tribe having had an opportunity to participate in selecting the hunting seasons desired for its reservation or ceded territory on those species of migratory birds for which open seasons are now prescribed, and consideration having been given to all other relevant matters presented, certain sections of title 50, chapter I, subchapter B, part 20, subpart K, are hereby amended as set forth below.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 20

Exports, Hunting, Imports, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Transportation, Wildlife.

Accordingly, part 20, subchapter B, chapter I of title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 20 — [AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 20 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 40 Stat. 755, 16 U.S.C. 703-712; Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, 16 U.S.C. 742a-j; Pub. L. 106-108, 113 Stat. 1491, Note Following 16 U.S.C. 703.

(Note: The following hunting regulations provided for by 50 CFR 20.110 will not appear in the Code of Federal Regulations because of their seasonal nature.)

2. Section 20.110 is revised to read as follows:

§ 20.110 Seasons, limits, and other regulations for certain Federal Indian reservations, Indian Territory, and ceded lands.

Unless specifically provided for below, all of the regulations contained in 50 CFR part 20 apply to the seasons listed herein.

(a) Colorado River Indian Tribes, Colorado River Indian Reservation, Parker, Arizona (Tribal Members and Nontribal Hunters).

Doves

Season Dates: Open September 1 through 15, 2015; then open November 7 through December 20, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: For the early season, daily bag limit is 10 mourning or whitewinged doves, singly, or in the aggregate. For the late season, the daily bag limit is 15 mourning doves. Possession limits are twice the daily bag limits after the first day of the season.

General Conditions: All persons 14 years and older must be in possession of a valid Colorado

River Indian Reservation hunting permit before taking any wildlife on tribal lands. Any person

transporting game birds off the Colorado River Indian Reservation must have a valid transport

declaration form. Other tribal regulations apply, and may be obtained at the Fish and Game

Office in Parker, Arizona. The early season will be open from one-half hour before sunrise until

noon. For the late season, shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

(b) Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Flathead Indian Reservation, Pablo, Montana

(Tribal Hunters).

Tribal Members Only

Ducks (including mergansers)

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through March 9, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: The Tribe does not have specific bag and possession

restrictions for Tribal members. The season on harlequin duck is closed.

Coots

Season Dates: Same as ducks.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Same as ducks.

Geese

Season Dates: Same as ducks.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Same as ducks.

General Conditions: Tribal and nontribal hunters must comply with all basic Federal migratory

bird hunting regulations contained in 50 CFR part 20 regarding manner of taking. In addition,

shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, and each waterfowl

hunter 16 years of age or older must carry on his/her person a valid Migratory Bird Hunting and

Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) signed in ink across the stamp face. Special regulations

established by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes also apply on the reservation.

(c) Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Cloquet, Minnesota (Tribal Members

Only).

Ducks

1854 and 1837 Ceded Territories:

Season Dates: Begin September 12 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 18 ducks, including no more than 12 mallards (only 3 of which may be hens),

9 black ducks, 9 scaup, 9 wood ducks, 9 redheads, 9 pintails, and 9 canvasbacks.

Reservation:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 12 ducks, including no more than 8 mallards (only 2 of which may be hens), 6

black ducks, 6 scaup, 6 redheads, 6 pintails, 6 wood ducks, and 6 canvasbacks.

Mergansers

1854 and 1837 Ceded Territories:

Season Dates: Begin September 12 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 15 mergansers, including no more than 6 hooded mergansers.

Reservation:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 mergansers, including no more than 4 hooded mergansers.

Canada Geese

1854 and 1837 Ceded Territories:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 20 geese.

Reservation:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 20 geese.

Coots and Common Moorhens (Common Gallinules)

1854 and 1837 Ceded Territories:

Season Dates: Begin September 12 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 20 coots and common moorhens, singly or in the aggregate.

Reservation:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 20 coots and common moorhens, singly or in the aggregate.

Sandhill Cranes: 1854 and 1837 Ceded Territories:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: One sandhill crane. Crane carcass tags are required prior to hunting.

Sora and Virginia Rails

1854 and 1837 Ceded Territories:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 25 sora and Virginia rails, singly or in the aggregate.

Reservation:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 25 sora and Virginia rails, singly or in the aggregate.

Common Snipe

1854 and 1837 Ceded Territories:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: Eight common snipe.

Reservation:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: Eight common snipe.

Woodcock

1854 and 1837 Ceded Territories:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: Three woodcock.

Reservation:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: Three woodcock.

Mourning Doves

1854 and 1837 Ceded Territories:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 30 mourning doves.

Reservation:

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 30 mourning doves.

General Conditions:

1. While hunting waterfowl, a tribal member must carry on his/her person a valid tribal

waterfowl hunting permit.

2. Except as otherwise noted, tribal members will be required to comply with tribal codes that

will be no less restrictive than the provisions of Chapter 10 of the Model Off-Reservation Code.

These regulations parallel Federal requirements in 50 CFR part 20 as to hunting methods,

transportation, sale, exportation, and other conditions generally applicable to migratory bird

hunting.

3. Band members in each zone will comply with State regulations providing for closed and

restricted waterfowl hunting areas.

4. There are no possession limits on any species, unless otherwise noted above. For purposes of

enforcing bag and possession limits, all migratory birds in the possession or custody of band

members on ceded lands will be considered to have been taken on those lands unless tagged by a

tribal or State conservation warden as having been taken on-reservation. All migratory birds that

fall on reservation lands will not count as part of any off-reservation bag or possession limit.

5. Shooting hours for migratory birds are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after

sunset.

(d) Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Suttons Bay, Michigan (Tribal

Members Only).

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 15, 2016.

Daily Bag Limit: 25 ducks, which may include no more than 6 pintail, 4 canvasback, 6 black

ducks, 1 hooded merganser, 6 wood ducks, 5 redheads, and 12 mallards (only 6 of which may be

hens).

Canada and Snow Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 geese.

Other Geese (white-fronted geese and brant)

Season Dates: Open September 20 through December 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: Five geese.

Sora Rails, Common Snipe, and Woodcock

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 14, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 rails, 10 snipe, and 5 woodcock.

Mourning Doves

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 14, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 mourning doves.

Sandhill Crane

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 14, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: Two sandhill crane, with a season limit of six.

General Conditions: A valid Grand Traverse Band Tribal license is required and must be in possession before taking any wildlife. Shooting hours for migratory birds are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. All other basic regulations contained in 50 CFR part 20 are valid. Other tribal regulations apply, and may be obtained at the tribal office in Suttons Bay, Michigan.

(e) Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Odanah, Wisconsin (Tribal Members

Only).

The 2015–16 waterfowl hunting season regulations apply to all treaty areas (except where

noted):

Ducks

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territories: 50 ducks.

1836 Ceded Territory: 30 ducks.

Mergansers

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 mergansers.

Geese

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end December 31, 2015. In addition, any portion of the ceded territory that is open to State-licensed hunters for goose hunting after December 31 will also be open concurrently for tribal members.

Daily Bag Limit: 20 geese in aggregate.

Other Migratory Birds

Coots and Common Moorhens (Common Gallinules):

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 20 coots and common moorhens (common gallinules), singly or in the

aggregate.

Sora and Virginia Rails

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 20 sora and Virginia rails, singly or in the aggregate, 25.

Common Snipe

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 16 common snipe.

Woodcock

Season Dates: Begin September 2 and end December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 woodcock.

Mourning Doves: 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territories only.

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end November 29, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 15 doves.

Sandhill Cranes: 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territories only.

Season Dates: Begin September 1 and end December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: Two cranes.

Swans: 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territories only.

Season Dates: Begin November 1 and end December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: Two swans.

Additional Restrictions: All harvested swans must be registered by presenting the fully-feathered carcass to a tribal registration station or GLIFWC warden. If the total number of trumpeter swans harvested reaches 10, the swan season will close by emergency tribal rule.

General Conditions

A. All tribal members are required to obtain a valid tribal waterfowl hunting permit.

B. Except as otherwise noted, tribal members are required to comply with tribal codes that are no less restrictive than the model ceded territory conservation codes approved by Federal courts in the Lac Courte Oreilles v. State of Wisconsin (Voigt) and Mille Lacs Band v. State of Minnesota cases. Chapter 10 in each of these model codes regulates ceded territory migratory bird hunting. Both versions of Chapter 10 parallel Federal requirements as to hunting methods, transportation, sale, exportation, and other conditions generally applicable to migratory bird hunting. They also automatically incorporate by reference the Federal migratory bird regulations.

C. Particular regulations of note include:

- 1. Nontoxic shot is required for all waterfowl hunting by tribal members.
- 2. Tribal members in each zone must comply with tribal regulations providing for closed and restricted waterfowl hunting areas. These regulations generally incorporate the same restrictions contained in parallel State regulations.
- 3. There are no possession limits, with the exception of 2 swans (in the aggregate) and 25 rails (in the aggregate). For purposes of enforcing bag limits, all migratory birds in the possession and custody of tribal members on ceded lands are considered to have been taken on those lands unless tagged by a tribal or State conservation warden as taken on reservation lands. All migratory birds that fall on reservation lands do not count as part of any off-reservation bag or

possession limit.

4. The baiting restrictions included in the respective section 10.05(2)(h) of the model ceded

territory conservation codes will be amended to include language which parallels that in place for

nontribal members as published at 64 FR 29799, June 3, 1999.

5. There are no shell limit restrictions.

6. Hunting hours are from 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.

(f) [Reserved]

(g) Kalispel Tribe, Kalispel Reservation, Usk, Washington (Tribal Members and Nontribal

Hunters).

Nontribal Hunters on Reservation

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 5 through September 13, 2015, for the early season, and open

October 3, 2015, through January 17, 2016, for the late season. During this period, days to be

hunted are specified by the Kalispel Tribe. Nontribal hunters should contact the Tribe for more

detail on hunting days.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Five Canada geese for the early season, and three light geese

and four dark geese for the late season. The daily bag limit is two brant (when the State's season

is open) and is in addition to dark goose limits for the late season. The possession limit is twice

the daily bag limit.

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 18 through September 20, 2015, and open September 25 through

September 27, 2015, for the early season; and open October 3, 2015, through January 17, 2016,

for the late season.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Seven ducks, including no more than two female mallards, two

pintail, one canvasback, three scaup, and two redheads. The possession limit is twice the daily

bag limit.

Tribal Hunters Within Kalispel Ceded Lands

Ducks

Season Dates: Open October 3, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Seven ducks, including no more than two female mallards, two

pintail, one canvasback, three scaup, and two redheads. The possession limit is twice the daily

bag limit.

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 5, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limit: Six light geese and four dark geese. The daily bag limit is two brant and is in

addition to dark goose limits.

General: Tribal members must possess a validated Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation

Stamp and a tribal ceded lands permit.

(h) [Reserved]

(i) Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Cass Lake, Minnesota (Tribal Members Only).

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 15 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limits: 10 ducks, including no more than 5 pintail, 5 canvasback, and 5 black ducks.

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limits: 10 geese.

General: Possession limits are twice the daily bag limits. Shooting hours are one-half hour

before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Nontoxic shot is required. Use of live decoys, bait,

and commercial use of migratory birds are prohibited. Waterfowl may not be pursued or taken

while using motorized craft.

(j) Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Manistee, Michigan (Tribal Members Only).

1836 Ceded Territory and Tribal Reservation:

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 12, 2015, through January 25, 2016.

Daily Bag Limits: 12 ducks, including no more than 6 mallards (2 of which may be hens), 3

black ducks, 3 redheads, 3 wood ducks, 2 pintail, 1 hooded merganser, and 2 canvasback.

Canada Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through February 8, 2016.

Daily Bag Limit: Five.

White-fronted Geese, Brant, and Snow Geese

Season Dates: Open September 20 through November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: Five.

Woodcock, Mourning Doves, Snipe, and Sora and Virginia Rails

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 14, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 5 woodcock and 10 each of the other species.

General: Possession limits are twice the daily bag limits.

(k) The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Petoskey, Michigan (Tribal Members

Only).

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limits: 20 ducks, including no more than 5 hen mallards, 5 black ducks, 5 redheads, 5

wood ducks, 5 pintail, 5 scaup, and 5 canvasback.

Mergansers

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limits: 10 mergansers, including no more than 5 hooded mergansers.

Coots and Gallinules

Season Dates: Open September 15 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 20.

Canada Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through February 8, 2016.

Daily Bag Limit: 20 in the aggregate.

Sora and Virginia Rails

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 20.

Snipe

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 16.

Mourning Doves

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 14, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 15.

Woodcock

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 1, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 10.

Sandhill Cranes

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 1, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: One.

General: Possession limits are twice the daily bag limits.

(1) Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, Lower Brule Reservation, Lower Brule, South Dakota (Tribal

Members and Nontribal Hunters).

Tribal Members

Ducks, Mergansers, and Coots

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through March 10, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Six ducks, including no more five mallards (only two of which

may be hens), three scaup, one mottled duck, two redheads, three wood ducks, two canvasback,

and two pintail. Coot daily bag limit is 15. Merganser daily bag limit is five, including no more

than two hooded mergansers. The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit.

Canada Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through March 10, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 6 and 18, respectively.

White-fronted Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through March 10, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Two and six, respectively.

Light Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through March 10, 2016.

Daily Bag Limit: 20.

General Conditions: All hunters must comply with the basic Federal migratory bird hunting

regulations in 50 CFR part 20, including the use of steel shot. Nontribal hunters must possess a

validated Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp. The Lower Brule Sioux Tribe has

an official Conservation Code that hunters must adhere to when hunting in areas subject to

control by the Tribe.

(m) [Reserved]

(n) Makah Indian Tribe, Neah Bay, Washington (Tribal Members).

Band-tailed Pigeons

Season Dates: Open September 12 through October 25, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: Two band-tailed pigeons.

Ducks and Coots

Season Dates: Open September 26, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limit: Seven ducks including no more than five mallards (only two of which can be a

hen), one redhead, one pintail, three scaup, and one canvasback. The seasons on wood duck and harlequin are closed. The coot daily bag limit is 25.

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 26, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limit: Four, including no more than one brant. The seasons on Aleutian and dusky Canada geese are closed.

General

All other Federal regulations contained in 50 CFR part 20 apply. The following restrictions also apply:

- 1. As per Makah Ordinance 44, only shotguns may be used to hunt any species of waterfowl. Additionally, shotguns must not be discharged within 0.25 miles of an occupied area.
- 2. Hunters must be eligible, enrolled Makah tribal members and must carry their Indian Treaty Fishing and Hunting Identification Card while hunting. No tags or permits are required to hunt waterfowl.
- 3. The Cape Flattery area is open to waterfowl hunting, except in designated wilderness areas, or within 1 mile of Cape Flattery Trail, or in any area that is closed to hunting by another ordinance or regulation.
- 4. The use of live decoys and/or baiting to pursue any species of waterfowl is prohibited.
- 5. Steel or bismuth shot only for waterfowl is allowed; the use of lead shot is prohibited.
- 6. The use of dogs is permitted to hunt waterfowl.
- 7. Shooting hours for all species of waterfowl are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

8. Open hunting areas are: GMUs 601 (Hoko), a portion of the 602 (Dickey) encompassing the

area north of a line between Norwegian Memorial and east to Highway 101, and 603 (Pysht).

(o) Navajo Nation, Navajo Indian Reservation, Window Rock, Arizona (Tribal Members and

Nontribal Hunters).

Band-tailed Pigeons

Season Dates: Open September 1 through 30, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 5 and 10 pigeons, respectively.

Mourning Doves

Season Dates: Open September 1 through 30, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 10 and 20 doves, respectively.

General Conditions: Tribal and nontribal hunters will comply with all basic Federal migratory

bird hunting regulations in 50 CFR part 20, regarding shooting hours and manner of taking. In

addition, each waterfowl hunter 16 years of age or over must carry on his/her person a valid

Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) signed in ink across the face.

Special regulations established by the Navajo Nation also apply on the reservation.

(p) Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, Oneida, Wisconsin (Tribal Members Only).

Ducks (including mergansers)

Season Dates: Open September 19 through November 20, 2015, and open November 30 through

December 6, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Six, including no more than six mallards (three hen mallards),

six wood ducks, one redhead, two pintail, and one hooded merganser. The possession limit is

twice the daily bag limit.

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 20, 2015, and open November 30 through

December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 5 and 10 Canada geese, respectively, from September 1

through November 20, 2015, and November 30 through 31, 2015. Hunters will be issued five

tribal tags for geese in order to monitor goose harvest. An additional five tags will be issued

each time birds are registered. A seasonal quota of 500 birds is adopted. If the quota is reached

before the season concludes, the season will be closed at that time.

Woodcock

Season Dates: Open September 5 through November 1, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Two and four woodcock, respectively.

Doves

Season Dates: Open September 5 through November 1, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 10 and 20 doves, respectively.

General Conditions: Tribal member shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half

hour after sunset. Nontribal members hunting on the Reservation or on lands under the

jurisdiction of the Tribe must comply with all State of Wisconsin regulations, including season

dates, shooting hours, and bag limits, which differ from tribal member seasons. Tribal members

and nontribal members hunting on the Reservation or on lands under the jurisdiction of the Tribe

will observe all basic Federal migratory bird hunting regulations found in 50 CFR part 20, with

the following exceptions: Tribal members are exempt from the purchase of the Migratory

Waterfowl Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp); and shotgun capacity is not limited

to three shells.

(q) Point No Point Treaty Council, Kingston, Washington (Tribal Members Only).

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through March 10, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Seven ducks, including no more than two hen mallards, one

pintail, one canvasback, four scoters, and two redheads. Possession limit is twice the daily bag

limit. Bag and possession limits for harlequin ducks is one per season.

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 9, 2015, through March 10, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Four geese, and may include no more than three light geese.

The season on dusky Canada geese is closed. Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

Brant

Season Dates: Open January 10 through January 25, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Two and four, respectively.

Coots

Season Dates: Open September 13, 2015, through February 1, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 7 and 14 coots, respectively.

Mourning Doves

Season Dates: Open September 13, 2015, through January 18, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 10 and 20 doves, respectively.

Snipe

Season Dates: Open September 13, 2015, through March 10, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 8 and 16 snipe, respectively.

Band-tailed Pigeons

Season Dates: Open September 13, 2015, through January 18, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Two and four pigeons, respectively.

Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through March 10, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Seven ducks, including no more than two hen mallards, one pintail, one canvasback, four scoters, and two redheads. Possession limit is twice the daily bag

limit. Bag and possession limits for harlequin ducks is one per season.

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through March 10, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Four geese, and may include no more than three light geese.

The season on dusky Canada geese is closed. Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

Brant

Season Dates: Open November 9, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Two and four, respectively..

Coots

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through March 10, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 7 and 14 coots, respectively.

Mourning Doves

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 10 and 20 doves, respectively.

Snipe

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through March 10, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 8 and 16 snipe, respectively.

Band-tailed Pigeons

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through March 10, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Two and four pigeons, respectively.

General: Tribal members must possess a tribal hunting permit from the Point No Point Tribal Council pursuant to tribal law. Hunting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Hunters must observe all other basic Federal migratory bird hunting regulations in 50 CFR part 20.

(r) The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, Isabella Reservation, Mt. Pleasant,

Michigan (Tribal Members Only)

Mourning Doves

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limit: 25 doves.

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limits: 20, including no more than 5 hen mallard, 5 wood duck, 5 black duck, 5 pintail, 5 redhead, 5 scaup, and 5 canvasback.

Mergansers

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limit: 10, including no more than 5 hooded mergansers.

Canada Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limit: 20 in the aggregate.

Coots and Gallinule

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limit: 20 in the aggregate.

Woodcock

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limits: 10.

Common Snipe

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limits: 16.

Sora and Virginia Rails

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limits: 20 in the aggregate.

Sandhill Crane

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag Limits: One.

General: Possession limits are twice the daily bag limits except for rails, of which the possession

limit equals the daily bag limit (20). Tribal members must possess a tribal hunting permit from

the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe pursuant to tribal law. Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise

until one-half hour after sunset. Hunters must observe all other basic Federal migratory bird

hunting regulations in 50 CFR part 20.

(s) Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan (Tribal Members

Only).

Mourning Doves

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 14, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 doves.

Teal

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limits: 20 in the aggregate

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 15 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limits: 20, including no more than 10 mallards (only 5 of which may be hens), 5

canvasback, 5 black duck, and 5 wood duck.

Mergansers

Season Dates: Open September 15 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 in the aggregate.

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 20 in the aggregate.

Coots and Gallinule

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 20 in the aggregate.

Woodcock

Season Dates: Open September 2 through December 1, 2015.

Daily Bag Limits: 10.

Common Snipe

Season Dates: Open September 15 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limits: 16.

Sora and Virginia Rails

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag Limits: 20 in the aggregate.

General: Possession limits are twice the daily bag limits except for rails, of which the possession

limit equals the daily bag limit (20). Tribal members must possess a tribal hunting permit from

the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe pursuant to tribal law. Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise

until one-half hour after sunset. Hunters must observe all other basic Federal migratory bird

hunting regulations in 50 CFR part 20.

(t) [Reserved]

(u) Skokomish Tribe, Shelton, Washington (Tribal Members Only).

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 16, 2015, through February 28, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Seven ducks, including no more than two hen mallards, one

pintail, one canvasback, one harlequin per season, and two redheads. Possession limit is twice

the daily bag limit (except for harlequin).

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 16, 2015, through February 28, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Four geese, and may include no more than three light geese.

The season on Aleutian Canada geese is closed. Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

Brant

Season Dates: Open November 1, 2015, through February 15, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Two and four brant, respectively.

Coots

Season Dates: Open September 16, 2015, through February 28, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 25 and 50 coots, respectively.

Mourning Doves

Season Dates: Open September 16, 2015, through February 28, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 10 and 20 doves, respectively.

Snipe

Season Dates: Open September 16, 2015, through February 28, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 8 and 16 snipe, respectively.

Band-tailed Pigeons

Season Dates: Open September 16, 2015, through February 28, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Two and four pigeons, respectively.

General Conditions: All hunters authorized to hunt migratory birds on the reservation must

obtain a tribal hunting permit from the respective Tribe. Hunters are also required to adhere to a

number of special regulations available at the tribal office. Hunters must observe all other basic

Federal migratory bird hunting regulations in 50 CFR part 20.

(v) Spokane Tribe of Indians, Spokane Indian Reservation and Ceded Lands, Wellpinit,

Washington (Tribal Members Only).

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 2, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Seven ducks, including no more than two hen mallards, two

pintail, two canvasback, three scaup, and two redheads. Possession limit is twice the daily bag

limit.

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 2, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Four dark geese and six light geese. Possession limit is twice

the daily bag limit.

General Conditions: All tribal hunters must have a valid Tribal identification card on his or her

person while hunting. Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, and steel shot is

required for all migratory bird hunting. Hunters must observe all other basic Federal migratory

bird hunting regulations in 50 CFR part 20.

(w) Squaxin Island Tribe, Squaxin Island Reservation, Shelton, Washington (Tribal Members

Only)

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 15, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Five ducks, which may include only one canvasback. The

season on harlequin ducks is closed. Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 15, 2015, through January 15, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Four geese, and may include no more than two snow geese.

The season on Aleutian and cackling Canada geese is closed. Possession limit is twice the daily

bag limit.

Brant

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Two and four brant, respectively.

Coots

Season Dates: Open September 1, 2015, through January 15, 2016.

Daily Bag Limits: 25 coots.

Snipe

Season Dates: Open September 15, 2015, and through January 15, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 8 and 16 snipe, respectively.

Band-tailed Pigeons

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 5 and 10 pigeons, respectively.

General Conditions: All tribal hunters must obtain a Tribal Hunting Tag and Permit from the

Tribe's Natural Resources Department and must have the permit, along with the member's treaty

enrollment card, on his or her person while hunting. Shooting hours are one-half hour before

sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, and steel shot is required for all migratory bird hunting.

Other special regulations are available at the tribal office in Shelton, Washington. Hunters must

observe all other basic Federal migratory bird hunting regulations in 50 CFR part 20.

(x) [Reserved]

(y) [Reserved]

(z) The Tulalip Tribes of Washington, Tulalip Indian Reservation, Marysville, Washington

(Tribal Members Only).

Ducks and Mergansers

Season Dates: Open September 2, 2015, through February 29, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Seven ducks, including no more than two hen mallards, two

pintail, two canvasback, three scaup, and two redheads. Possession limit is twice the daily bag

limit.

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 2, 2015, through February 29, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Seven geese, including no more than four cackling and dusky

Canada geese. Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

Brant

Season Dates: Open September 2, 2015, through February 29, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Two and four brant, respectively.

Coots

Season Dates: Open September 2, 2015, through February 29, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 25 and 25 coots, respectively.

Snipe

Season Dates: Open September 2, 2015, through February 29, 2016.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 8 and 16 snipe, respectively.

General Conditions: All tribal hunters must have a valid Tribal identification card on his or her

person while hunting. All nontribal hunters must obtain and possess while hunting a valid

Tulalip Tribe hunting permit and be accompanied by a Tulalip Tribal member. Shooting hours

are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, and steel shot is required for all migratory bird

hunting. Hunters must observe all other basic Federal migratory bird hunting regulations in 50

CFR part 20.

(aa) Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, Sedro Woolley, Washington (Tribal Members Only).

Mourning Doves

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 31, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 12 and 15 mourning doves, respectively.

Tribal members must have the tribal identification and harvest report card on their person to

hunt. Tribal members hunting on the Reservation will observe all basic Federal migratory bird

hunting regulations found in 50 CFR part 20, except shooting hours would be fifteen minutes

before official sunrise to 15 minutes after official sunset.

(bb) [Reserved]

(cc) White Earth Band of Ojibwe, White Earth, Minnesota (Tribal Members Only).

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 12 through December 15, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit for Ducks: 10 ducks, including no more than 2 female mallards, 1 pintail, and 1

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Mergansers

Season Dates: Open September 12 through December 15, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit for Mergansers: Five mergansers, including no more than two hooded

mergansers.

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 15, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 12 geese through September 25, and 5 thereafter.

Coots

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 20 coots.

Snipe

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 snipe.

Mourning Dove

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 25 mourning dove.

Woodcock

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 woodcock.

Rail

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 30, 2015.

Daily Bag Limit: 25 rail.

General Conditions: Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after

sunset. Nontoxic shot is required. All other basic Federal migratory bird hunting regulations

contained in 50 CFR part 20 will be observed.

(dd) White Mountain Apache Tribe, Fort Apache Indian Reservation, Whiteriver, Arizona

(Tribal Members and Nontribal Hunters).

Band-tailed Pigeons (Wildlife Management Unit 10 and areas south of Y-70 and Y-10 in

Wildlife Management Unit 7, only)

Season Dates: Open September 1 through 15, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: Three and six pigeons, respectively.

Mourning Doves (Wildlife Management Unit 10 and areas south of Y-70 and Y-10 in Wildlife

Management Unit 7, only)

Season Dates: Open September 1 through 15, 2015.

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: 10 and 20 doves, respectively.

General Conditions: All nontribal hunters hunting band-tailed pigeons and mourning doves on

Reservation lands shall have in their possession a valid White Mountain Apache Daily or Yearly

Small Game Permit. In addition to a small game permit, all nontribal hunters hunting band-

tailed pigeons must have in their possession a White Mountain Special Band-tailed Pigeon

Permit. Other special regulations established by the White Mountain Apache Tribe apply on the

reservation. Tribal and nontribal hunters will comply with all basic Federal migratory bird

hunting regulations in 50 CFR part 20 regarding shooting hours and manner of taking.

(ee) [Reserved]

Dated: August 26, 2015

Karen Hyun

Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

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